

at the age of 21 he joined the United States Army where he remained in service for 20 years. During this period he became proficient working with missile systems. He was selected and attended Drill Sergeant School where he graduated and successfully completed a three year tour. During this time he was selected to attend and graduated Primary Leadership School, Basic Non Commissioned Officer School, Advanced Non Commissioned Officer school and a host of other schools. In 1995 after completion of his military service, Mr. Quinn returned home and began a career in law enforcement.

In 1996 Mr. Quinn was hired and worked for Corrections Corporation of America (CCA) where he quickly rose to rank of captain. After four years of service to Correction Corporations of America Mr. Quinn was hired in 2000 and worked as a campus police at Mississippi Valley State University. After a year of service Mr. Quinn was hired in 2001 by the Leflore County Sheriff Department.

Mr. Quinn worked his way up in rank and in 2006 became the only second African American to hold the position of Investigator for the Leflore County Sheriff Department. Mr. Quinn attended and graduated the Certified Investigator Program (CIP) becoming a certified investigator in the state of Mississippi.

Mr. Quinn is the proud parent of three sons: Travis, Robert, III and D'montre; and three daughters: Tannisha, Emelja and Denita.

Mr. Quinn has worked with the Leflore County Drug Court and the Leflore County Crime Stoppers. Along with his duties of investigator, Mr. Quinn also works with the Mississippi Community Education Center.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing an Investigator Extraordinaire, Mr. Robert H. Quinn, Jr. for his dedication to serving others and giving back to the African American community.

#### IN OPPOSITION TO CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL

#### HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 14, 2014*

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to record a few observations about the California high-speed rail project.

It's no surprise that high-speed rail has become a boondoggle even before any track has been installed. This was a political project from the beginning, backed by local politicians who thought it would raise their political fortunes. For example, as noted by Sacramento Bee columnist Dan Walters, a planned route between Merced and Bakersfield was the direct result of President Obama's effort to help an endangered Democrat lawmaker, whose district received \$700 million of stimulus funding just before the 2010 elections.

Californians were deceived about the most fundamental aspects of this project, whose price tag has already doubled to \$68 billion. With independent estimates routinely exceeding \$100 billion, it's hard to believe the initial estimates were put forward in good faith, or that voters would have approved the project if they had known its true cost. Recently, Governor Brown has even proposed raiding the state's cap-and-trade program to help finance the ballooning costs.

Make no mistake, this railway will never operate without massive taxpayer subsidies. To make it appear financially sustainable, planners estimated that the line from San Francisco to Los Angeles will carry more than twice as many riders and cost half the price compared to a trip from Washington to New York on the existing high-speed rail line there. This is a preposterous estimate for a region which, compared to the Northeast Corridor, has a smaller population base, lower population density, and less extensive mass transit system to connect everyone.

Furthermore, nonpartisan reports as well as research by the State Auditor and Legislative Analyst have cast doubt on the project's basic assumptions, and these misgivings were reinforced recently when a state judge found that the state had no valid financial plan for the project.

In light of this stunning level of waste and deception, California high-speed rail has already proved itself to be a monumental failure. Californians are being forcibly evicted from their homes and businesses to make way for an extravagant train to nowhere. The only reasonable course of action is to spare our communities further misfortune by ending this project once and for all.

#### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

#### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 14, 2014*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,282,527,565,175.09. We've added \$6,655,650,516,262.01 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

#### CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE MONTCLAIR ART MUSEUM

#### HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 14, 2014*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Montclair Art Museum, located in the Township of Montclair in Essex County, New Jersey, as it celebrates its Centennial Anniversary.

When the Montclair Art Museum opened in 1914, it was not only one of the country's first museums to primarily focus on American and Native American art, but also was one of the first museums in the nation to be accredited by the American Association of Museums. The museum's collections began with gifts from Montclair residents, which acted as the foundation of its holdings. The American collection started with a gift of 36 paintings from William T. Evans, while the Native American collection was initiated by Mrs. Henry Lang, both co-founders of the museum. When the museum opened, it dedicated a gallery to America's

landscape painter George Innes, who spent the last nine years of his life creating artwork in Montclair, New Jersey.

In 1924, the museum founded its art school, now known as the Yard School of Art. The school has operated continually since then, offering a wide spectrum of artistic courses to children, teenagers, and adults. In 2011, the school added a Ceramics Studio and Digital Media Laboratory. Two additional programs include training for teachers in the arts, and a new contemporary art program. The museum provides programs for seniors and special needs individuals, as well.

Since the opening in 1914, the Museum's collection has grown to over 12,000 works. The American collection includes paintings, drawings, prints, sculptures, and photographs dating from the 18th Century to the present and features works by Benjamin West, Asher B. Durand, John Singer Sargent, Edward Hopper, Georgia O'Keeffe, and Andy Warhol. The Native American Collection contains over 4,000 pieces including basketry, pottery, and jewelry from various cultural areas across the United States. The museum also features young and emerging artists.

The Montclair Art Museum maintains a strong sense of community presence through its public and family programs. Each year, 10,000 students from Kindergarten to twelfth grade visit the museum, coming from 190 school districts. The museum also holds events such as Family Days, Montclair Art Museum Park Bench, Home School Days, Family Learning Laboratory, and birthday parties.

As it celebrates its Centennial, the Montclair Art Museum continues to work towards bettering its education programs, outreach efforts, exhibitions, and informing and inspiring diverse audiences.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Montclair Art Museum, its trustees, staff and many volunteers, as they celebrate their Centennial Anniversary.

#### HONORING MR. ROY HARPER

#### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 14, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a Veteran, Mr. Roy Harper (1923–2011), of the United States Army.

Mr. Roy Harper was born July 20, 1923 to the parentage of Vollie & Estella Hartfield Harper in Hopewell in the state of Mississippi. Mr. Harper was the 2nd child of four (4) children. His siblings are: Gussie Harper Phillips, LeAngie Harper Brown and Nathaniel Harper.

Mr. Harper grew up in the Brushy Creek Community where he was a member of Brushy Creek M.B. Church. He joined at the early age of 10 years old and was baptized in the creek in back of Reno's Store. Mr. Harper served as: a trustee at Brushy Creek M.B. Church in 1963; a deacon; choir president; Cemetery section; and was a member of Brushy Creek Building fund committee.

Mr. Harper was married to Beulah Haley Harper and to this union three (3) children were born: Adell Harper, now deceased; Helen Harper Mckenny; and Willie Fred Harper.

Private Roy Harper was drafted in the United States Army on January, 1943 and was sent to Camp Shelby in Mississippi. He was honorably discharged from the United States Military Services in the Army Airbase in Lincoln, Nebraska on November 27, 1943. Private Harper received a Testimonial Certificate of Honest and Faithful Services to his country.

Mr. Roy Harper remained a member of Brushy Creek Church and held various positions throughout the years until his demise on December 17, 2011.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a dynamic Veteran, Mr. Roy Harper.

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HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE  
OF SGT. J. MICHAEL PHILLIPPI

**HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 14, 2014*

Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, Representative ROBERT HURT and I honor the

life and service of Sgt. J. Michael Phillippi of Martinsville, Virginia, who passed away while on duty in a tragic auto accident on January 11, 2014.

Born in Kingsport, Tennessee, in 1948, Sgt. Phillippi graduated from Gate City High School in Gate City, Virginia, Hiwassee Junior College in Madisonville, Tennessee, and East Tennessee State University in Johnson City.

Sgt. Phillippi dutifully served the Commonwealth of Virginia as a respected member of the State Police for more than 42 years, spending much of his time with the state police office that covers the Martinsville, Henry County, and Patrick County area. He became a sergeant in 1990.

Known by many as “Flip,” his dedication and service earned him much praise. Col. Steven Flaherty, the state police superintendent, said, “Highly respected for his leadership, strong character, integrity, and dedication to mission, Sgt. Phillippi was totally loyal to the troopers he supervised and mentored, and the community he served,” and Lt. Paul Watts said, “To have done this job as long he has,

he’s the type of veteran we all hope that we can be one day.”

Sgt. Phillippi was also a very active and devoted member of the McCabe Memorial Baptist Church. He served the church as a deacon and a member of the pastor search committee, taught Sunday school, and worked with its youth group. He also was a member of the YMCA and the Elks Club.

We are honored to pay tribute to this great man. Sgt. Phillippi will long be remembered throughout Martinsville, Henry County, and Patrick County as well as the Virginia State law enforcement community. Our continued prayers and blessings are with Sgt. Phillippi’s wife Peggy Lawrence Phillippi and his other loved ones as they grieve. May God give them comfort during this time.